Before matriculating in September, you must confirm your academic programme for the whole year with the Honours Philosophy Adviser. Changes of modules will be permitted only in the first week of each semester, — and the Adviser must be consulted again for each change. Any changes of modules, including withdrawals, are unauthorised and may be disregarded unless the Honours Adviser has been consulted about them first.

*Honours Advising for Session 2016-17 will take place on Tuesday 6 September from 10.00 until 16.30 and Wednesday 7 September from 10.00 until 16.30 as follows:*

**Junior Honours:**
*Tues 6 September: students A – M 10.00 – 12.30; students N - Z 14.00 - 16.30*

**Senior Honours:**
*Weds 7 September: students A – M 10.00 – 12.30; students N - Z 14.00 - 16.30*
CONTENTS

1. Session Dates 2016-2017  
2. Aims and Objectives of the Honours Modules in Philosophy  
3. Admissions to Junior Honours in 2016  
4. Programme Requirements  
5. Honours Philosophy Modules offered in 2016-2017  
6. Details of Non-Dissertation Modules for 2016-2017  
7. Details of Dissertation Modules  
8. Provisional List of Honours Philosophy Modules in 2017-2018

1. Session Dates 2016-17

Orientation Week: Week commencing Monday 5 September 2016

Martinmas Semester: Monday 12 September 2016 – Friday 16 December 2016

Graduation: Wednesday 30 November 2016

Revision Period: Monday 28 November 2016– Sunday 4 December 2016


Christmas Vacation: Saturday 17 December 2016 – Wednesday 4 January 2017

Candlemas Semester: Monday 23 January 2017 – Friday 26 May 2017

Spring Vacation: Saturday 11 March 2017 – Sunday 26 March 2017

May Day Holiday: Monday 1 May 2017

Revision Period: Saturday 22 April 2017 – Sunday 7 May 2017

Examinations: Monday 8 May 2017 – Friday 26 May 2017

Graduation: Monday 19 June 2017 – Friday 23 June 2017

2
2. Aims and Objectives of Honours Study in Philosophy

The Honours modules are designed to build on the foundations laid by sub-Honours modules in philosophy. The programme gives students the opportunity to develop and broaden their interests in philosophy, through historical study as well as discussion and evaluation of particular philosophical issues and problems.

In addition, Honours modules are designed to equip students with a broad range of personal and intellectual skills which will not only enable students to complete their degree successfully but will also provide a foundation for further training and prepare them fully for their future careers.

Amongst the broad range of personal and intellectual skills the Philosophy Department recognises and develops are:

- interpretative and critical skills
- independent learning and research
- oral and written communication skills
- constructive discussion skills
- information management
- and time and task management.

The study of Philosophy at Honours is particularly geared to foster the following skills and abilities:

**Analytical and Critical Thinking Abilities:**

- The ability to identify and clarify assumptions and conceptual relationships.
- The ability to construct, evaluate and criticise arguments on a reasoned basis.
- The ability to recognise and employ a variety of argumentative strategies.
- The ability to diagnose where a view has gone wrong and where to put it right.

**Communication Skills:**

- The ability to speak and write with clarity, precision, and rigour.
- The ability to communicate a complex point of view succinctly.

**Interpretative and Comprehension Skills:**

- The ability to master difficult texts and follows complex arguments.
- The ability to listen to and appreciate different points of view and values.
- The ability to recognise and evaluate one’s own presuppositions.
3. Admission to Junior Honours in 2016

For All Arts Students:

- 240 credits at sub-Honours, of which at least 80 should be at 2000-level.

If you fall short of 240 credits, then provided you have at least 40 at second level, you may be permitted to ‘trail’ the missing modules, i.e., take them in your Junior Honours year. (Speak to the Honours Adviser about this at Pre-Advising in June if you are unsure.) You will not be permitted to trail more than one module (or 30 sub-honours credits) into Honours.

For MA Single Honours Philosophy or Joint Honours Philosophy:

- At least 80 credits from PY1001 – PY2103, to include PY1006 or PY1012; **AND**
  - Grades of at least 11 in each module for 40 credits from PY2001 – PY2103 gained at first sitting; **OR**
  - Grades of at least 10 in each module for 40 credits from PY2001 – PY2103 with a mean of 12 or above across these modules, at first sitting.

For BSc Joint Honours Philosophy:

- At least 60 credits from PY1001 – PY2103, to include PY1006 or PY1012; **AND**

  **For those who are Second Years in 2015-16 or later**
  - Grades of at least 11 from at least one of PY2010 Intermediate Logic and PY2012 Meaning and Knowing at first sitting;
  **AND**
  - 20 credits from any other 1000-level or 2000-level PY modules.

  **For those who were Second Years in 2014-15**
  - Grades of at least 11 in each of PY2001 Formal and Philosophical Logic and PY2002 Metaphysics and Science (these are 10 credits each) at first sitting; **OR**
  - Grades of at least 10 in each of PY2001 Formal and Philosophical Logic and PY2002 Metaphysics and Science (these are 10 credits each), with a mean of 12 or above across these modules, at first sitting;
  **AND**
  - 20 credits from PY1005 OR PY1105 OR PY1106 OR PY2003 – PY2103.

For those taking a Philosophy Honours module as part of a General Degree or another Honours programme:

- At least 80 credits from PY1001 – PY2103, to include PY1006 or PY1012; **AND**
  - Grades of at least 11 in each module for 40 credits from PY2001 – PY2103 gained at first sitting; **OR**
  - Grades of at least 10 in each module for 40 credits from PY2001 – PY2103 with a mean of 12 or above across these modules, at first sitting.
NB: Philosophy does not implement the policy, used in some other Schools and Departments, of offering “conditional entry” to the first semester of Junior Honours, (which then later becomes full Honours entry on achievement of certain standards during that first semester). Rather, Philosophy has two straightforward categories: either (i) admission to Honours Philosophy for those students who satisfy the above requirements, or (ii) denial of Honours Philosophy entry for those who do not.

4. Programme Requirements

General Explanation of Honours requirements:

There are two categories of Honours module in philosophy:

- **3000-level**: PY3100 (Reading Philosophy 1) and PY3200 (Reading Philosophy 2)
- **4000-level**: (prefix PY4- plus any cross-listed, e.g. some CL4-, GK4- and ID4-courses).

You must take 3000-level modules in your Junior Honours year (either PY3100 or PY3200 for Single or Joint Honours MA; PY3100 for BSc Joint Honours).

Single Honours Philosophy

Over your two Honours years, you must accumulate:

- At least 210 credits in Honours Philosophy (modules labelled PY3-, PY4-, CL4444, CL4452, GK4117, ID4002, ID4859).

You may take up to 30 credits from outside Philosophy Honours (i.e. dip-down to sub-Honours, or dip-across to a different Honours subject), if you are granted permission by the relevant department, but you must accumulate at least 210 Honours credits in total. Across your four Honours semesters, you must take a total of 240 credits (so up to 30 credits can be from sub-Honours modules). Moreover, you must include at least 90 credits of 4000-level modules. Your degree classification is calculated on the basis of all your Honours modules, and does not include any sub-Honours credits.

In your Junior Honours year you must pass:

- PY3100 Reading Philosophy 1 AND/OR PY3200 Reading Philosophy 2
  (i.e. at least 30 credits of 3000-level modules).

In your Junior Honours year you should also take 60-90 credits of 4000-level modules in Honours philosophy (depending on how many 3000-level are taken, and unless you are taking a dip-across or dip-down).
In your Senior Honours year you must:

- Take enough 4000-level modules to ensure that you have across your two Honours years at least 90 4000-level credits, and a total of at least 210 Philosophy Honours credits.

A typical Single Honours student with no dip-down or dip-across will take:

Junior Honours: EITHER 60 credits 3000-level modules, and 60 credits 4000-level modules OR 30 credits 3000-level modules, and 90 credits 4000-level modules

Senior Honours: 120 credits 4000-level modules.

**Joint Honours Philosophy in the Arts Faculty**

Over your two Honours years, you must accumulate:

- At least 90 credits in Honours Philosophy (modules labelled PY3-, PY4-, CL4444, CL4452, GK4117, ID4002, ID4859).

You may take up to a total of 150 credits from outside Philosophy Honours (e.g. credits from your other Honours subject, credits from dip-down to sub-Honours, or credits from dip-across to a third Honours subject if you are granted permission by the relevant department), but you must accumulate at least 210 Honours credits in total. Across your two years, you must take a total of 240 credits (so up to 30 credits can be from sub-Honours modules). Moreover, you must take at least 90 credits of 4000-level modules. Your degree classification is calculated on the basis of all your Honours modules, and does not include any sub-Honours credits.

In your Junior Honours year you must pass:

- At least one of PY3100 Reading Philosophy 1 or PY3200 Reading Philosophy 2 (i.e. at least 30 credits of 3000-level modules).

In your Junior Honours year you may also choose to take the other 3000-level module, or to take some of the 4000-level modules in Honours philosophy.

In your Senior Honours year you must:

- Take enough 4000-level modules to ensure that you have across your two Honours years a total of at least 90 Honours philosophy credits, at least 90 4000-level credits, and a total of at least 210 Honours credits.

A typical Joint Honours student with no dip-across or dip-down will take:

Junior Honours year: 60 credits in the other Honours subject, plus 30 credits of a Philosophy 3000-level module, plus 30 credits of either the other 3000-level Philosophy module or a 4000-level Philosophy module.
Senior Honours year: 60 credits in the other Honours subject, plus 60 credits of 4000-level Philosophy modules.

Joint Honours Philosophy (BSc) in the Science Faculty (with Science or Maths subjects)

[NB: this degree programme was formerly named ‘BSc Logic and Philosophy of Science’ but has, since 2015-16, been renamed ‘BSc Philosophy’]

Over your two Honours years, you must accumulate:

- At least 90 credits in Honours Philosophy (modules labelled PY3-, PY4-, CL4444, CL4452, GK4117, ID4002, ID4859).

You may take up to a total of 150 credits from outside Philosophy Honours (e.g. credits from your other Honours subject, credits from dip-down to sub-Honours, or credits from dip-across to a third Honours subject, if you are granted permission by the relevant department), but you must accumulate at least 210 Honours credits in total. Across your two years, you must take a total of 240 credits (so up to 30 credits can be from sub-Honours modules). Moreover, you must take at least 90 credits of 4000-level modules. Your degree classification is calculated on the basis of all your Honours modules, and does not include any sub-Honours credits.

In your Junior Honours year you must pass:

- PY3100: Reading Philosophy 1.

In your Junior Honours year you may also choose to take the other 3000-level module, PY3200: Reading Philosophy 2, or to take one of the 4000-level modules in Honours philosophy.

In your Senior Honours year you must:

- Take enough 4000-level modules to ensure that you have across your two Honours years a total of at least 90 Honours philosophy credits, at least 90 4000-level credits, and a total of at least 210 Honours credits.

A typical BSc Philosophy student with no dip-across or dip-down will take:

Junior Honours year: 60 credits in the other Honours subject, plus 30 credits of PY3100, plus 30 credits of either the other 3000-level Philosophy module or a 4000-level Philosophy module.

Senior Honours year: 60 credits in the other Honours subject, plus 60 credits of 4000-level Philosophy modules.
5. Honours Philosophy modules offered in 2016-17

These modules carry 30 credits each, except where indicated otherwise. Definitive information about pre-requisites, anti-requisites, assessment etc. can be found in the University Course Catalogue.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SEMESTER 1 (SEPTEMBER 2016 – DECEMBER 2016)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>3000-level Module:</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Py3100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>4000-level Modules:</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PY4615</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PY4624</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PY4639</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PY4644</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PY4646</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PY4648</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PY4651</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PY4652</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PY4701</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ID4002</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SEMESTER 2 (JANUARY 2017– MAY 2017)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>3000-level Module:</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Py3200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>4000-level Modules:</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PY4607</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PY4614</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PY4626</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PY4634</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
PY4643 Philosophy of Law
PY4647 Humans, Animals, and Nature
PY4650 Philosophy, Feminism, and Gender
CL4458 Ethics and Lifestyles: Philosophy and Ways of Living in Antiquity

In addition you may take at most one of the following modules:
PY4698 Dissertation in Philosophy (Senior Honours only, over two semesters)
PY4699 Dissertation in Philosophy (Senior Honours only, over one semester)

NB: Dissertation modules not available to those taking PY4701
Remember that you may also dip across to other Honours subjects.

6. Details of non-dissertation Honours modules for 16-17

All Honours modules will involve three hours of contact time per week, in some combination of lecture-time and smaller-group seminar-time.

Assessment methods for each module have been outlined here, but further details of each assessment element will be provided by the module coordinator. Note that there is some variety in assessment methods, with a number of modules moving away from the ‘essay/exam’ model, and some modules having presentation elements.

The final module content may differ slightly from the descriptions given below; note also that while some modules specify a course text, others just suggest useful preparatory reading. If you would like advice about what book(s) to buy, please contact the lecturer in question.

FIRST SEMESTER HONOURS MODULES 2016-17

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Module Code</th>
<th>Module Title</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PY3100</td>
<td>READING PHILOSOPHY 1: TEXTS IN LANGUAGE, LOGIC, MIND, EPISTEMOLOGY, METAPHYSICS, AND SCIENCE</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Credits:** 30.0
**Pre-Requisite:** PY1006 or PY1012 and 40 credits in 2000-level PY modules
**Module coordinator:** Lisa Jones (email: lj14)
**Module teachers:** Team Taught
**Class Hour:** 2-hour workshop groups Wednesday 11-1 (plus autonomous learning group time to be arranged)

**Description:** This module is designed to develop the philosophical skills students have acquired over their sub-Honours years, and acquaint them with key works in core areas of philosophy. The module involves close study of philosophical texts - historical and contemporary - that address a variety of topics within metaphysics, epistemology, the philosophies of logic and language, mind and science. Students will be required to carry out close study and discussion of these texts in staff-led weekly workshops, thereby furthering their skills of critical evaluation and analysis. Students
will also take turns in presenting papers to the workshop, in pair-groups, which will help them to develop important communication skills and provide an opportunity for teamwork.

**Assessment method:** 100% continuous assessment (3 elements, including seminar presentations)

---

**PY4615 METAPHYSICS**

**Credits:** 30.0  
**Pre-Requisite:** PY1006, or PY1012  
**Module coordinator and teacher:** Ephraim Glick (email: eg35)  
**Class Hour:** Tuesday 1 - 3

**Description:** This module covers a series of inter-related issues in the metaphysics of modality and time. Topics to be discussed include: the metaphysical status of past and future objects; how objects and persons persist through time; the metaphysical status of merely possible worlds and individuals; and questions about identity across possible worlds. Readings from Saul Kripke, David Lewis, Ted Sider, Derek Parfit, and others.

**Assessment method:** 100% continuous assessment (4 elements)

---

**PY4624 PHILOSOPHY OF ART**

**Credits:** 30.0  
**Pre-Requisite:** PY1006 or PY1012  
**Anti-Requisite:** PY4812  
**Module coordinator and teacher:** Lisa Jones (email: lj14)  
**Class Hour:** Monday 11 – 1

**Description:** What makes an object a work of art? Are artworks always physical objects, or can they be mental, or abstract, entities? Can good art be morally bad? How is conceptual art to be understood, and appreciated? This module examines some of the fundamental contemporary debates in philosophy of art, including issues concerning the nature and definition of art, problems regarding representation and expression (how exactly do works of art represent, or express anything?), the relation of art to ethics, and the value of art. In the course of addressing these issues, we will read the work of aestheticians from ancient times to the present day.

**Assessment method:** 100% continuous assessment (3 elements, including group project/presentation and 'take-home' unseen essay paper)
PY4639 PHILOSOPHY OF CREATIVITY

Credits: 30.0
Pre-Requisite: PY1006 or PY1012
Module coordinator and teacher: Berys Gaut (email: bng)
Class Hour: Monday 3 - 5

Description: This module examines some of the fundamental issues in the philosophy of creativity. Topics typically covered may include the definition of 'creativity'; the relation of creativity to imagination; the nature of the creative process; the relation of creativity to knowledge and skill; computational theories of creativity; Darwinian theories of creativity; the relation of creativity to tradition; whether creativity is a kind of virtue and its relation to moral and intellectual virtues; and whether creativity differs fundamentally between the arts and the sciences.

Assessment method: 50% continuous assessment; 50% exam

PY4644 ROUSSEAU ON HUMAN NATURE, SOCIETY, AND FREEDOM

Credits: 30.0
Pre-requisite: PY1006 or PY1012
Module coordinator and teacher: James Harris (email: jah15)
Class Hour: Tuesday 11 – 1

Description: What kind of political freedom is possible in the modern world? In particular, is republican political freedom possible, the freedom of an autonomous sovereign people? Jean-Jacques Rousseau (1712-1778) argues that it is, despite the many ways in which politics has changed since the republics of ancient Athens and ancient Rome. The people do not have to hand over their sovereignty to their governors. Politics can be structured so that society’s most fundamental laws are made by the people themselves. We will examine this revolutionary idea by way of a close reading of Rousseau’s The Social Contract, giving special attention to the crucial distinction between 'sovereignty' and 'government'. We will bring out Rousseau’s radicalism through a contrast with the theory of political freedom proposed by Montesquieu in The Spirit of the Laws. And we will explore the distinctively modern character of Rousseau’s republicanism by grounding it in the historicized analysis of human nature presented in his Discourse on the Origins of Inequality.

Assessment method: 100% continuous assessment (1 or 2 essays)
PY4646 REASONS FOR ACTION AND BELIEF

Credits: 30.0
Pre-requisite: PY1006 or PY1012
Module coordinator: Justin Snedegar (email: js280)
Module teachers: Justin Snedegar and Jessica Brown
Class Hour: Thursday 10 - 12

Description: In considering what we ought to do and believe, we consider what reasons we have. For example, in deciding whether I should become a vegetarian or whether I should believe that climate change is occurring, I consider reasons for and against these things. The module will consider the nature of reasons and their relationship to claims about what I ought to do and believe. Since reasons are central to ethics, practical rationality, and epistemology, understanding reasons is crucial for understanding a huge swathe of philosophy. We explore these issues from both an epistemological and a practical perspective.

Assessment method: 100% continuous assessment (2 elements, including ‘take home’ unseen essay paper)

PY4648 CONCEPTUAL ENGINEERING AND ITS ROLE IN PHILOSOPHY

Credits: 30.0
Pre-requisite: PY1006 or PY1012
Anti-requisite: PY4601
Module coordinator: Patrick Greenough (email: pmg2)
Module teachers: Patrick Greenough and Kevin Scharp
Class Hour: Tuesday 3 - 5

Description:
The module provides an introduction to the ways in which we can criticize and improve our concepts – what is sometimes called ‘conceptual engineering’.

The concepts we have can be problematic for a number of reasons: they can be politically or ethically objectionable, inconsistent, unacceptably indeterminate or vague, or have other undesirable features. One task of philosophy is to discover such conceptual deficiencies and provide strategies for improving our conceptual repertoire. We may ask, for instance: should a theory of truth describe our concept of truth, or replace it with a better one? Is one goal of political philosophy to improve the concepts we use for thinking about social reality? If the answer to such questions is yes, then how do we go about doing it?

Assessment method: 100% continuous assessment (one long essay, with prior essay plan)
PY4651 EFFECTIVE ALTRUISM

Credits: 30.0
Pre-requisite: PY1006 or PY1012
Module coordinator: Theron Pummer (email: tgp4)
Module teachers: Theron Pummer and Tim Mulgan
Class Hour: Monday 9 - 11

Description: In this module we will explore a constellation of philosophical issues and questions surrounding the effective altruism movement. One set of questions concerns the core philosophical commitments of effective altruism, and their overall tenability. For example: is effective altruism compatible with agent-centred partiality for particular charitable causes? Should non-consequentialists understand benevolence in effective altruist terms? Another set of questions deals with issues arising more from within the effective altruist standpoint: What is the most important cause? Fighting extreme poverty, reducing existential risks, or what? How should we decide where to give if there is no clearly best cause? And to what extent is philosophical progress a priority, from an effective altruist perspective? Within the latter set of questions, special emphasis may be placed on different areas in different years.

Assessment method: 100% continuous assessment (3 elements)

PY4652 PHILOSOPHY OF HUMAN RIGHTS

Credits: 30.0
Pre-requisite: PY1006 or PY1012
Module coordinator: Elizabeth Ashford (email: ea10)
Module teachers: Elizabeth Ashford and Adam Etinson
Class Hour: Monday 1 - 3

Description: We will explore cutting-edge research on the nature, content, and justification of human rights. We begin by examining the origins of human rights and the implications this has for the philosophical understanding thereof (focusing in particular on anti-slavery courts and on the 1948 Universal Declaration of Human Rights). We explore current debates by political philosophers and international legal theorists over how we should properly conceive of human rights, the relationship between their status as moral and legal norms, and the nature of human dignity, to which the major human rights declarations appeal. The module also examines the significance of the fact that human rights are rights, as well as considering critical perspectives on the human rights movement.

Assessment method: 100% continuous assessment (2-3 elements)
PY4701 PHILOSOPHY AND PEDAGOGY

Credits: 15.0
Pre-Requisite: PY1006
Availability: Available only to students taking ID4002, Senior Honours Only
Co-requisite: ID4002
Module coordinator and teacher: Lisa Jones (email: lj14)
Class Hour: by supervision only.

Description: This module is a complement to ID4002 - Communication and Teaching in Arts and Humanities (a placement module in which students gain substantial experience of a working educational environment, and of communicating philosophical ideas or themes to school pupils). In this module, students will have the opportunity to carry out further study into the place of philosophy in education and/or the role of philosophy in teaching. This is a guided self-study module, which will be supervised by a member of philosophy staff. It is available only to participants in ID4002.

Assessment method: 100% continuous assessment (1 element: 5000-word essay)

ID4002 COMMUNICATION AND TEACHING IN ARTS AND HUMANITIES

Information regarding this module was circulated previously; entry is by application and interview only – deadline for applications was 3 March 2016.
SECOND SEMESTER HONOURS MODULES 2016-17

**PY3200 READING PHILOSOPHY 2: TEXTS IN ETHICS, META-ETHICS, RELIGION, AESTHETICS AND POLITICAL PHILOSOPHY**

**Credits:** 30.0  
**Pre-Requisite:** PY1006 or PY1012 and 40 credits in 2000-level PY modules  
**Module coordinator:** Lisa Jones (email: lj14)  
**Module teachers:** Team Taught  
**Class Hour:** One 2-hour workshop group (plus autonomous learning group time to be arranged)

**Description:** This module is designed to develop the philosophical skills students have acquired over their sub-Honours years, and acquaint them with key works in core areas of philosophy. The module involves close study of philosophical texts - historical and contemporary - that address a variety of topics within ethics, metaethics, aesthetics, philosophy of religion and political philosophy. Students will be required to carry out close study and discussion of these texts in staff-led weekly workshops, thereby furthering their skills of critical evaluation and analysis. Students will also take turns in presenting papers to the workshop, in pair-groups, which will help them to develop important communication skills and provide an opportunity for teamwork.

**Assessment method:** 100% continuous assessment (3 elements, including seminar presentations)

**PY4607 CONTINENTAL EUROPEAN PHILOSOPHY FROM DESCARTES TO LEIBNIZ**

**Credits:** 30.0  
**Pre-requisite:** PY1006 or PY1012  
**Module coordinator and teacher:** Alex Douglas (email: tbc)  
**Class Hour:** Monday 3 - 5

**Description:** This module will focus upon the way in which Continental European philosophers of the late seventeenth and early eighteenth century explored the problems inherent in the metaphysics of Descartes. Special attention will be given to questions such as the proper definition of substance; how to understand mind-body interaction, and causation in general; and what the relation between is between God and the universe. The systems of Descartes, Malebranche, and Spinoza will be examined as three very different ways of attempting to develop a coherent set of answers to these questions. In each case an attempt will be made to connect sometimes bizarre metaphysical theses with the ordinary world as experienced by human beings and as explored by natural scientists.

**Assessment method:** 50% continuous assessment; 50% exam
PY4614 PHILOSOPHY OF MIND

Credits: 30.0  
Pre-requisite: PY1006 or PY1012  
Module coordinator and teacher: Simon Prosser (email: sjp7)  
Class Hour: Tuesday 11 - 1

Description: This module introduces topics of central interest in contemporary philosophy of mind. As well as surveying the main twentieth century approaches to the mind-body problem the module will cover various contemporary issues relating to consciousness and intentionality. The module also illustrates the way in which work in other disciplines such as experimental psychology, neuroscience and artificial intelligence can inform philosophical theorising about the mind. Topics may vary slightly from year to year but are likely to include a number of the following: dualism, identity theories, behaviourism, functionalism, folk psychology, the 'Language of Thought' hypothesis, eliminative materialism, connectionism, anomalous monism, mental causation, modularity, phenomenal consciousness.

Assessment method: 100% continuous assessment (2 elements)

PY4626 LIFE AND DEATH

Credits: 30.0  
Pre-requisite: PY1006 or PY1012  
Module coordinator: Theron Pummer (email: tgp4)  
Module teachers: Theron Pummer and Elizabeth Ashford  
Class hour: Tuesday 9 - 11

Description: How should we think about moral problems concerning life and death? Choices about whose life to save and whom to allow to die have to be made, in health services and elsewhere. Some actions which aim at good ends will endanger lives. How should we think about decisions such as these? This module is not a 'moral problems' module. Instead it deals with the following general questions concerning life and death: Is death bad? In virtue of what is life good? Is there a morally significant difference between killing and letting die, or between intending someone’s death and merely foreseeing it? On what principles would one choose between lives, when the choice is forced? How should future lives be taken into account in present decisions?

Assessment method: 100% continuous assessment (2 or 3 elements)
**PY4634 PHILOSOPHY OF LOGIC**

**Credits:** 30.0  
**Pre-requisite:** PY1006 or PY1012; PY2001 or PY2010  
**Module coordinator and teacher:** Aaron Cotnoir (email: ac117)  
**Class Hour:** Monday 1 - 3

**Description:** The module covers philosophical issues that arise in connection with the logical notions of truth and consequence. We will consider several important theories of truth. What are the correct bearers of truth (e.g. sentences, propositions)? Does truth consist in correspondence to facts? Or is truth a more pragmatic or explanatorily thin property? Can truth be defined? Does truth have one nature, or many natures, or none at all? Secondly, we will consider several important theories of logical consequence.

How is consequence related to truth? Does the correct theory of consequence involve proofs or models? Is logic revisable, or is it a presupposed foundation for any such revision? Is logic normative for thought or otherwise related to rationality? Finally, are there many correct consequence relations, or only one, or none at all?

**Assessment method:** 100% continuous assessment (2 elements)

---

**PY4643 PHILOSOPHY OF LAW**

**Credits:** 30.0  
**Pre-requisite:** PY1006 or PY1012  
**Module coordinator and teacher:** Jens Timmermann (jt28)  
**Class Hour:** Tuesday 2 – 4

**Description:** The purpose of this module is to explore such topics in and concerning law as the nature of law; legal reasoning; the justification of punishment; the proper scope of the criminal law (with particular attention to paternalism and legal moralism); the principles of criminal liability and mens rea issues; justifications and excuses; and specific defences in the criminal law such as self-defence and the heat of passion defence.

**NB:** In 2016/17 the focus will be on theories of punishment from the Enlightenment to the present day. We shall discuss different notions of punishment, the competing theories of the purpose of (state) punishment as well as different forms of punishment past and present.

**Assessment method:** 50% continuous assessment; 50% exam
**PY4647 HUMANS, ANIMALS, NATURE**

**Credits:** 30.0  
**Pre-Requisite:** PY1006 or PY1012  
**Module Coordinator and Teacher:** Ben Sachs (email: bas7)  
**Class Hour:** Monday 10 - 11

**Description:** This module is an examination of the place of human beings in nature. Possible topics to be discussed include: (1) Whether humans might have moral dominion over other beings in virtue of their greater psychologically sophistication. (2) What should be said about those humans who are psychologically stunted for one reason or another, and especially whether their species membership on its own puts moral demands on the rest of us. (3) Whether humans might be either obligated or at least permitted to intervene in nature so as to make it a happier and more peaceful place. (4) Whether the state has obligations to animals. Over the course of the semester we will see what the various moral perspectives, such as for instance consequentialism, Kantianism, contractarianism, and Aristotelianism, have to say about these questions.

**Assessment:** 100% coursework (3 or 4 elements)

**PY4650 PHILOSOPHY, FEMINISM, AND GENDER**

**Credits:** 30.0  
**Pre-requisite:** PY1006 or PY1012  
**Module Coordinator and Teacher:** Alison Duncan Kerr (email: tbc)  
**Class Hour:** Thursday 2 – 4

**Description:** This module will introduce students to important metaphysical, epistemological, linguistic, and ethical issues concerning gender, via the arguments and methodology of analytic feminism. Questions addressed may include: what is gender? What might it mean to claim that reason, rationality or knowledge is gendered? Or that language is gendered? How is gender relevant to ethical concerns? How might an understanding of gender impact our thinking about concepts such as equality, justice, and difference? In considering such issues, we will also pay attention to the ways in which gender interacts with other factors, such as race, ethnicity, and social class.

**Assessment Method:** 100% coursework (3 elements)
CL4458 ETHICS AND LIFESTYLES: PHILOSOPHY AND WAYS OF LIVING IN ANTIQUITY

Credits: 30.0
Pre-requisite: Permission of the Classics Honours Adviser (Carlos Machado, carm3)
Module coordinator and teacher: Crystal Addey (email: cja8)
Class Hour: Wednesday 11 - 1

Description: For the major philosophers and philosophical schools of antiquity (including Platonism, Stoicism and Epicureanism), philosophy was not just a matter of abstract ideas about the cosmos but of everyday conduct and ethics. Philosophy gave guidance on how life should be lived. Issues such as mortality and immortality, death, friendship, love and vegetarianism were common topics of debate. Biographies of philosophers, often written by other philosophers, reflect this preoccupation with the practical, presenting philosophers as examples of how to live, teach and act. This module examines the functions, purposes and contexts of philosophical biography, considering the interconnections and interplay between biography and philosophy in antiquity. The focus will be primarily on the philosophy of the Roman Imperial period (including the Second Sophistic) and Late Antiquity and texts such as Porphyry’s *On Abstinence from Killing Animals*, Eunapius’ *Lives of the Philosophers*, and Iamblichus’ *On the Pythagorean Way of Life*.

Assessment method: 50% continuous assessment; 50% exam

7. Details of Dissertation Modules

You can choose to do at most one 30-credit dissertation module, either PY4698 or PY4699. These modules are only open to students in their Senior Honours year. Students taking PY4701 in their final year are not permitted to take a dissertation module.

PY4698 DISSERTATION (WHOLE YEAR)

Prerequisite: At least 60 Honours Philosophy credits including either PY3100 or PY3200
Anti-requisite: PY4802, PY4699, PY4701
Deadline for submission: 13 May 2017 (via electronic submission)
Description: This module aims to develop the philosophical skills of literature review, accurate exposition, clear analysis, and critical thinking for oneself, by writing a dissertation on a selected topic, with the supervision of a tutor.
PY4699 DISSERTATION IN PHILOSOPHY (EITHER SEMESTER)

Prerequisite: At least 60 Honours Philosophy credits including either PY3100 or PY3200
Anti-requisite: PY4802, PY4698, PY4701
Deadline for submission: on 3 Jan 2017 for semester 1; on 13 May 2017 for semester 2. (Each via electronic submission)
Description: This module aims to develop the philosophical skills of literature review, accurate exposition, clear analysis, and critical thinking for oneself, by writing a dissertation on a selected topic, with the supervision of a tutor.

IF YOU WISH TO DO A DISSERTATION (IN EITHER SEMESTER OR OVER BOTH) THEN you must:

I. get advice—before the summer vacation—from member(s) of staff on the selection of a manageable topic,
II. secure the agreement of a member of staff to supervise your work on it, and
III. submit a proposal form to the Philosophy main office (either in hard copy, or emailed to philosophy@) by Friday June 24th 2016 (the day by which you should also have completed pre-advising online). The Dissertation Proposal Form is available on the Philosophy Department website, and is currently at this address (which may change):

http://www.st-andrews.ac.uk/philosophy/docs/honsdiss.pdf

The role of the supervisor is to meet the student either fortnightly over one semester or monthly over two semesters, to advise on relevant reading and on the general treatment of the topic, but not to give very detailed feedback on draft material, i.e. the main composition and revision must be done by the student.

The supervisor will also be one of the markers of the dissertation. The other marker will be a member of staff whose expertise fits the topic of the dissertation.

The upper limit on length is now 7,500 words, including all quotations and footnotes, but excluding the bibliography.

Please note that while your dissertation may well be informed by work done in your previous essays and your other coursework it should not reproduce work which you have already submitted for your degree. (Consult your supervisor if you are unsure about this.)

Samples of Dissertations that have achieved a first-class grade are available to consult from the Undergraduate Course Administrator. Your dissertation supervisor will also be able to give you detailed advice on how to write a first-class dissertation.
Dissertations are to be submitted in electronic copy only, by the date specified above. The electronic copy should be submitted via MMS by 23:59. Submissions must occur by the dissertation deadline, if time penalties are to be avoided.

8. Honours Philosophy modules that may be offered in 2017-18

The 4000-level modules listed below MAY be offered by the Department: but whether they or different modules are taught will depend on several factors, including staff availability. So you should not rely on any of these modules being offered: they are included merely as a guide that may help you to decide what modules to take in 2016-17. A more definitive list of 2017-18 modules will be provided in next year’s Pre-Advising booklet (available in April 2017).

- PY4606 Contemporary Epistemology
- PY4608 Political Philosophy in the Age of Revolutions
- Py4610 Philosophy of Perception
- PY4611 Classical Philosophy
- Py4612 Advanced Logic
- PY4618 Animals, Minds and Language
- PY4625 Philosophy & Public Affairs: Global Justice
- PY4632 Contemporary Philosophy of Language
- PY4635 Contemporary Moral Theory
- PY4638 Philosophy of Religion
- PY4640 Mediaeval Philosophy
- PY4645 Philosophy and Literature
- PY4701 Philosophy and Pedagogy (Senior Honours only)
- ID4002 Communication and Teaching in Arts (Senior Honours only)
- CL4444 Pleasure, Goodness and Happiness: Hellenistic Ethics

In addition you may take at most one of the following modules:

- PY4698 Dissertation in Philosophy (Senior Honours only, over two semesters)
- PY4699 Dissertation in Philosophy (Senior Honours only, over one semester)

Remember that you may dip across to other Honours subjects.